

- Trees regulated by homeowners' association regulations.

Exceptions are typically provided for pruning or removing trees that are dead or injured and pose some threat to persons or property. You should also be careful not to remove trees on your neighbor's property, as you may be subject to civil and criminal penalties under North Carolina law.

Who is responsible for replanting trees in my community?

Cities and utilities may, or may not, replant trees that are removed from public property, utility easements, or public right-of-ways. State and federal requirements to remove trees that could damage or prevent maintenance access to power lines, gas lines, or sewer and water lines may also prohibit the replanting of those trees or other vegetation. Your local urban forester, city arborist, or public works department can tell you the landscaping options for your community.

On private property, owners are responsible for replanting trees and other vegetation that has been removed. Many communities have local ordinances and regulations that govern trees and other vegetation and offer guidance on tree species and planting location. For lists of trees and other vegetation that may be planted and guidelines for where to plant based on local regulations, contact your urban forester, city arborist, or public works department. Utility companies also may provide this information. Additionally, homeowner associations have regulations that govern tree planting within the development. This information should be provided to you upon buying your home.



Mark Dearmon

Plan before you plant. To avoid conflict with community infrastructure and utilities, consider the following before planting:

- The final height and spread at maturity of the tree you want to plant.
- Anything above and below the planting location that may create a conflict in the future.

Before planting, call the North Carolina One Call Center to ensure that it is safe to dig: 1.800.632.4949.

Where can I go for more information about maintaining trees in my community?

For more information on maintaining healthy trees in your community contact your:

- community's urban forester, city arborist, or public works department;
- local county Cooperative Extension office; or
- state forest service, Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Information is also available online from:

International Society of Arboriculture

www.isa-arbor.com/

National Arbor Day Foundation

www.arborday.org/

Trees Are Good

www.treesaregood.org/

TreeLink

www.treelink.org/

Urban Forestry Index

www.urbanforestryindex.com/

Urban Forestry South

www.urbanforestrysouth.org/

Prepared by:

Robert E. Bardon, PhD, *Forestry Extension Specialist*

Brandon King, *Extension Assistant*

Funding for this publication was provided through an Urban and Community Forestry Grant from the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources, North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources. www.dfr.state.nc.us/

Cover photo by BigStock photo—Elena Elisseeva

4,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$562, or \$.14 per copy.

Published by
NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

AG-696

E08 50288

2/08—4M—VB/KEL

Who is responsible for the trees?

A citizens' guide to trees in the community



NC State University
A&T State University
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**
Empowering People • Providing Solutions